

Church at Home for Abridge

5th April 2020

Activities for the whole family

Jesus rides into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday



1. Here is a sung version and a video of today's story

https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=kyFZ93k_0AU&feature=youtu.be

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VIUKOYCi15w>

2. Here are some activity ideas



Lectionary Edition
Sunday 5th April
Palm Sunday

Here are some activities you could do together as a family, begin with the story and then do as many or as few as you like, in any order.



Bible Passage

Today we will be exploring together, the story of Jesus entering Jerusalem on a donkey.

You can find it in your Bible in:

Matthew 21 v 1-11

Read the story together – choose a Bible translation or children's story version which best suits your group.

The other passage we will be thinking about is:

Psalm 118 v 1-2 and 19-29

Discussion

A question for adults to ask children

What did the people in the story shout? What do you think 'Hosanna' means?

The word Hosanna in Hebrew meant 'save us' – it is the same word you can find in verse 25 of Psalm 118. The people who were welcoming Jesus into the city were recognising Jesus as their Saviour. Jesus' arrival into Jerusalem on a colt was a fulfilment of the prophecies that had been made about him in the Old Testament. He was the Messiah that the people had been waiting for.

A question for children to ask adults

Can you think of a time when you had a visit from somebody important or exciting? What happened and how did it make you feel?

A prayer to say together

Dear God,

Thank you for the story of Jesus arriving in Jerusalem. Thank you that you came to be a Saviour for everybody.

As we prepare for Easter help us to draw close to you and learn more about who you are.

We pray for those in the world who do not know you yet. Help them to recognise you as their Saviour

Amen

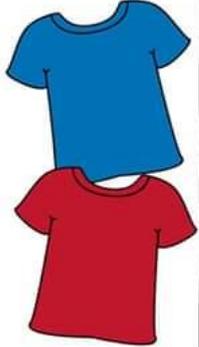
Family Activity 1

You will need: fabric you don't mind standing on e.g. old t-shirts, pillow cases.

Using just two or three pieces of fabric can you get your whole family from one side of the room to the other?

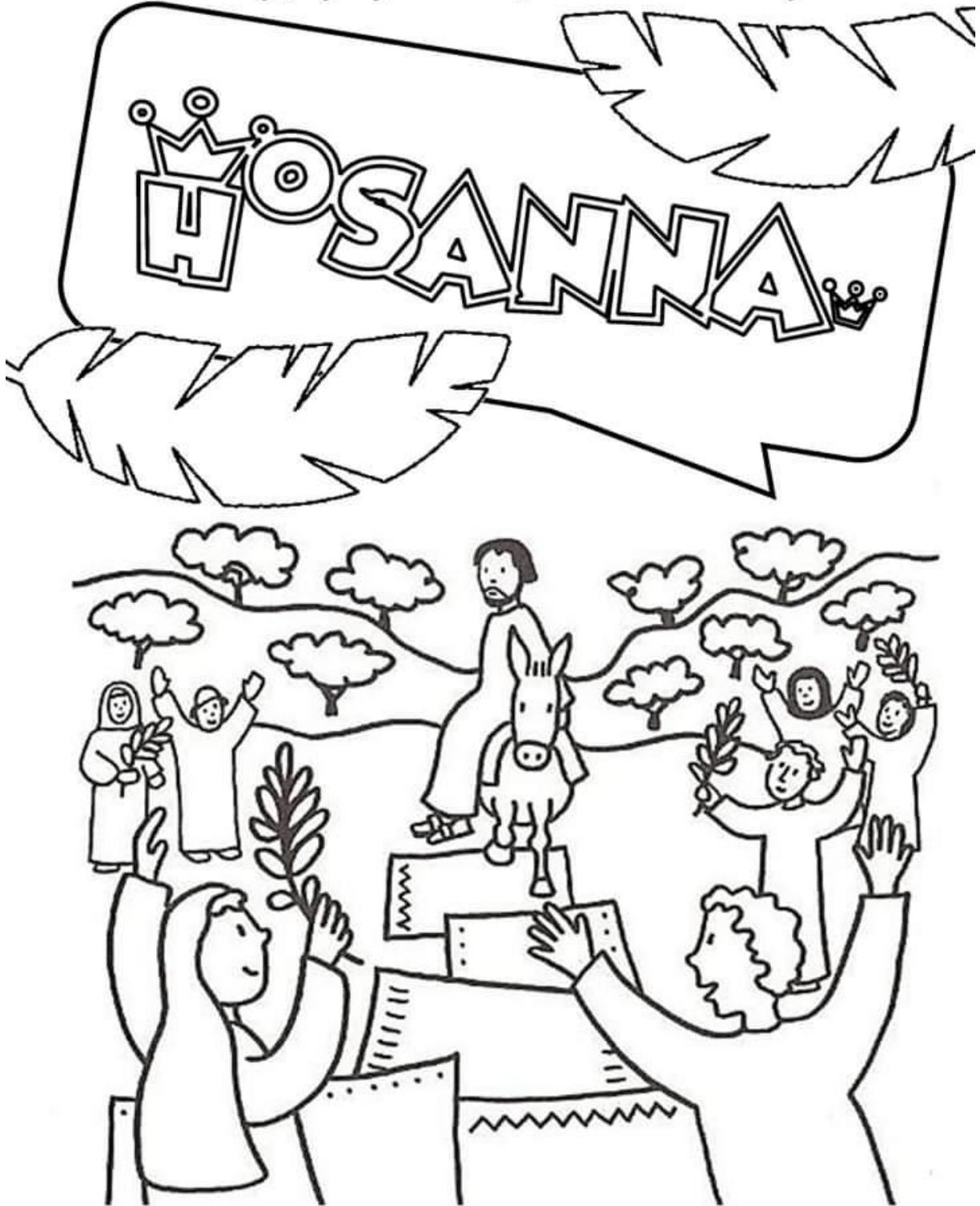
You are only allowed to stand on the fabric and not touch the floor. You will need to work as a team standing on one piece while you move the other.

Use this as a reminder of the clothes that the people put down for Jesus to walk on.



3. Here is a picture to talk about as you colour and decorate it

A colouring page you could print and colour together



4. Additional ideas

Talk about the story together

1. What makes you think that Jesus had planned ahead for this special day?
2. What was so special about choosing a donkey?
3. Why had such large crowds gathered to welcome Jesus?
4. What sort of king was everyone expecting?
5. Why were the Pharisees so upset?

Visual aid

Find a branch with large leaves to be your 'palms' for this story. You might even be able to find a real palm leaf somewhere or perhaps a cross made from palm leaves.

Activity idea

Christians usually receive a palm cross at church on the Sunday to remember this story. You may already have one from last year. On the internet there are instructions how to fold paper to make your own palm cross. Once you have something to wave, recreate the sounds of that day calling out the words of welcome from the story and adding a shout of 'Hosanna', which means 'save us', as well as lots of cheering.

Prayer idea

Use the palms of your hands to signpost different sorts of prayer for this special day. Wave the palms of your hands in praise of Jesus. Hold up your palms asking Jesus to be king of all your life this day. Turn over your palms to let go of all that is bad in your life. Press together the palms of your hands and ask God to help you be ready to say 'yes', whenever the Lord says 'The master needs you'. Stretch out your palms to bless each other in the name of the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Highlighted verse

'Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord' - Luke 19:38

Old Testament link story

Zechariah 9:9-10 - Long ago the prophet Zechariah wrote about the way in which the special king from God would arrive in Jerusalem